

diploma she enrolled in Alabama State University in the fall of 1968.

On December 20, 1970, she married Ed Harbison at the historic Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. served as a pastor from 1954 to 1960 and organized the Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1955.

In 1973, Mrs. Harbison and her husband moved to Columbus, Georgia, where she continued her college education and later graduated with a degree in early childhood education from Columbus State University. She would go on to also earn her master's degree in counseling from Troy University. In addition to her undergraduate and graduate degrees, Mrs. Harbison also earned leadership certifications from the Georgia School Counselors Association in Crisis Intervention, Cultural Diversity, Drug and Alcohol Intervention/Prevention, and Family Counseling.

Dr. Maya Angelou once said that: "I've learned that you shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands; you need to be able to throw something back." Cecilia used her life and educational skills to throw something back to her community. She served as an educator/counselor in the Muscogee County School System; public relations official in the Gwinnett County School System; and as job developer for the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education. She was involved in many organizations that were dedicated to helping people to reach their full potential.

Cecilia loved her family and she loved her God. She knew that these were two loves that would put you on the path to greatness. Her special relationship with God began as a young teen at Bethany Seventh Day Adventist Church in Montgomery and continued when she moved to Columbus and became affiliated with the Sheppard Drive Seventh Day Adventist Church. In her later years, she continued her relationship with God as a member of Kingdom Metropolitan Worship Center. She was a special woman who supported her husband and children in all of their endeavors.

Cecilia was a fighter. Throughout her illness, she never gave up and kept on fighting the good fight. The Apostle Paul as he neared the end of this life penned the following words: "For I am ready to be offered and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished my course, and I have kept the faith: Henceforth, there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness." Cecilia fought the good fight, finished her course and always kept the faith. And by the grace of God she has now claimed her crown.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the almost 700,000 people in the Second Congressional District of Georgia, would like to extend our deepest sympathies to her husband, State Senator Ed Harbison, Cecilia's children, and other family members during this difficult time. May they be consoled and comforted by their abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

HONORING COMMISSIONER
REBECA SOSA

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, in recognition of Women's History month I rise today to honor Commissioner Rebeca Sosa, an admirable individual who has served South Florida with distinction.

Commissioner Sosa was first elected to the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners in June 2001 to represent the residents of District 6. She has since been re-elected three times, most recently in 2010 without opposition. Prior to joining Miami-Dade County, Commissioner Sosa served as mayor of the City of West Miami for seven years. During her tenure, the city recovered from a 52 percent budget deficit, thus removing it from the State Governor's Emergency list. She was essential in securing more than \$5 million in grants for capital improvement projects for the city, as well as improving its drainage and parks system.

Commissioner Sosa currently serves as Chair of the Miami-Dade County Economic Development and Social Services Committee. As Chair, she is responsible for providing oversight and guidance to several departments and agencies responsible for the economic development and revitalization of the community, by creating an atmosphere that promotes public and private partnerships. She is also a member of the South Florida Regional Planning Council, whose mission is to identify the long-term challenges and opportunities facing Southeast Florida. She also assists the region's leaders in developing and implementing creative strategies that promote a more prosperous and equitable community, a healthier and cleaner environment, and a more vibrant economy.

She devotes her free time to civic activities, which include serving as the first Vice President of the Miami-Dade League of Cities, Chair of the West Miami Financial and Budget Committee, the West Miami Hurricane Preparedness Committee, among many others. Commissioner Sosa has been consistently recognized throughout her career and was recently awarded the "Government & Law" award during the 21st Annual "In the Company of Women" Award Ceremony. The award is a testament to her leadership, creativity, and vision in addressing community issues in Miami-Dade County.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Commissioner Rebeca Sosa for her continued service to the South Florida community. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dear friend and remarkable individual. I wish her continued success in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF UNIVERSITY LABORATORY HIGH SCHOOL AT THE TOSHIBA/NATIONAL SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION EXPLORAVISION PROGRAM

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate four exceptional 10th grade students from University Laboratory High School in Urbana, Illinois.

Max Li, Gloria Ha, Roberto Chapa, and Ananth Nandakishore have exemplified amazing success with their project "MIRROR" (Minimally-Invasive Robotic Orofacial Repair Technology). This is a prenatal technology that would utilize an in-womb robotic technology to repair diagnosed cleft lip or palate defects in the third trimester, effectively eliminating the scarring defect and consequently and future needs for operations or rehabilitation.

These young men and woman were selected as Regional Winning Finalists in the 20th annual Toshiba/National Science Teachers Association ExploraVision Program, the world's largest K-12 student science and technology competition. They were selected from a group of 4,807 entries, representing 14,602 students from the U.S. and Canada.

I want to also thank their teacher, David Stone, for his dedication to encourage the pursuit of excellence in every student at University Laboratory High School. These outstanding students represent the best of this nation's youth and I wish them continued success in their high school careers and beyond.

RECOGNIZING THOM HAUBERT

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2012

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Mr. Thom Haubert for his distinguished work and accomplishments as Battelle Memorial Institute's Inventor of the Year.

The American innovator has been a cornerstone of this country's culture and a key to our success. It is through these new ideas that our country has been able to prosper in the past, and how our country will work its way out of these challenging economic times. That is why I am happy to recognize Mr. Haubert for this great accomplishment. Thom joined Battelle, the world's largest independent research and development organization, in 1988, and has contributed to and led important research projects. Thom's significant impact on the world, its body of science and engineering, has resulted in numerous real world applications to help people. One of his recent and significant discoveries is in helping to detect and track cancer.

Thom is one of Battelle's "go-to" mechanical engineers for ideation aspects of many health and life sciences programs. Over the years, he has been able to quickly identify creative, inventive, practical, and unique solutions to difficult problems. As a result of the ingenuity of his thinking and tenacity of his work,